IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

National Phase Filing of

International Application No. PCT/IB2004/002135

Serial No.

Unassigned

Applicants

: Edgar Diebel et al.

Filed

December 16, 2005

Title

IR-ATR-BASED PROCESS FOR ANALYZING VERY SMALL AMOUNTS OF

SAMPLE IN THE NANOLITER RANGE

TC/A.U.

Unassigned

Examiner

Unassigned

Docket No.

04DC001WO

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Commissioner:

The Applicant respectfully requests that prior to the examination of the above-captioned patent application that this Preliminary Amendment be entered.

The Applicant's Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

The Applicant's Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

The Applicant's Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.